

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-30 (Canceled)

31-65 (Canceled)

66. (New) A method for *in vitro* evaluation of the efficiency of a substance of interest in a cosmetic formulation comprising:

- a) obtaining a sample from skin to which a cosmetic composition comprising a substance of interest has been applied,
- b) evaluating the presence of organisms responsible for axillary odor sharing lipase activity by contacting said sample with a lipase substrate, and detecting and quantifying the amount of transformed substrate,

wherein said sample is not cultured prior to said contacting; and

- c) evaluating said efficiency of said substance of interest by comparing the amount of transformed substrate with an amount of transformed substrate detected and quantified from a sample obtained from a bodily surface without previous application of said substance of interest.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the transformable substrate comprises 2-hydroxy-4-p-nitrophenoxy-butyl carboxylic acid ester.

68. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the lipase substrate comprises a C3 to C18 ester.

69. **(New)** The method according to claim 68, wherein the lipase substrate is 2-hydroxy-4-p-nitrophenoxy-butyl decanoate.